

Region II Interagency Coordinating Committee  
8/22/05 meeting minutes

*In attendance: Marlys Albright, Nancy Rubbelke, Wendy Thomas, Kathy Lee, Holly Pedersen, Mary Lou Holliday, Melissa Flood, Chris Strom, Andrea Spear, Keith Gustafson, Bernadine Young Bird, Thea Holm, Bertrille Fox, Dana Deegan, Alan Ekblad, Dianne Maupin, Paula Burkhardt, Diana Reiner*

1. Wendy Thomas passed around and briefly reviewed the minutes from the last meeting (5/23/05).
2. Remaining 2005 meeting dates were announced. It will be 11/21/05 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at NCHSC Conference Room A.
3. Kathy announced that several RFP's (Requests for Proposals) are still upcoming. They were expected to be in the newspaper 5-22-05; however, none were noted. Further discussion regarding these proposals will be held once the RFP's are open to the public. Committee members have been asked to participate in editing any written efforts made. All agreed.
4. Member binders were given to committee members not in attendance at previous meetings. The binder contains information about the history of the RICC, member expectations, meeting information, the QIP, commonly used forms, and resources. Extra binders have been made to share with new members as they join the committee.
5. Marlys Albright and Thea Holm provided a Right Track report for Region II. From 4/1/05 to 6/30/05, there were 130 children screened (of which 35 were new referrals) and 6 referred from Right Track to DDCM. Referral sources to Right Track included hospitals, parents, Children's Special Health Services, Infant Development, Country Cousins, friends of the family, Right Track consultants, Village Teams, and CAPTA (6).
6. No State ICC report was given due to lack of committee representation.
7. At the May 2005 meeting, Wendy Thomas agreed to research the topic of local parent resources and present at the next meeting. Resources were presented and discussion was held as to the overwhelming amount received. For example, the Minot Public Library publishes a directory every year listing over 600 clubs and organizations. Job Service of North Dakota has a database of providers called the SHARE Network. The Family to Family Network has published a book of family resources for families. Kathy Lee shared that our Experienced Parent developed a packet of information and plans to visit the family a few weeks after enrollment to go over paperwork.
8. Holly Pedersen had a few announcements: 1) the State Deaf Blind Project has a new director 2) the NDSD has an interim Superintendent and 3) the NDSD will be having some upcoming trainings on cochlear implants and early language strategies.
9. Committee input was gathered regarding MIDP's policy on "No Shows". All agreed to the following: *"After 2 no shows without contact with a family, the DDCM is to be notified and a certified letter will be sent that will state that the child will be discharged if the family does not make contact by the specified date."* Further suggestions were made to have follow-up with the family in 3

months by again providing program information and referring the family to other appropriate agencies.

10. Keith Gustafson, Alan Ekblad, and Marlys Albright presented their current work regarding state Early Learning Guidelines. Keith reported that this is a joint effort between the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education. They are currently in the stages of drafting the guidelines and observation records to be used by field test sites. Keith is compiling the guidelines for birth – 24 months, Marlys for 24 month to 4 years, and Alan from 4 to 5 years. Discussion was held in how the guidelines would be accessed. Suggestions were made by the RICC committee to have a website accessible to the public (including parents and professionals). On a side note, Keith also mentioned that he is starting a Parent-Infant Clinic this fall to go through the Early Learning Guidelines and participate in video taping.
11. Kathy Lee announced that the Williston Infant Development program is now under the umbrella of NDCPD. However, offices and contact information will remain the same. NDCPD/MSU is serving as a fiscal agent.
12. Kathy Lee provided an overview of Project KaeLynn; a successor grant to the First Sounds Project. She mentioned that Project KaeLynn is funded through the Centers for Disease Control. She also mentioned an upcoming Hearing Summit on October 21<sup>st</sup>. However, there seems to be several conflicts with this date. Kathy will follow-up.
13. Discussion was held about the lack of speech language services in our region. There appears to be a high need for language experiences for toddlers with expressive language delays. Several people suggested starting language groups. Rural issues would need to be worked out. Kathy suggested a team of people who would travel and provide play groups and parent education. Paula suggested enlisting parents as volunteers. Kathy would like for Deb to be at our next meeting to talk about the possibility of using Part C dollars to fund such a group. Melissa Flood offered to invite Donna Burt to our next meeting to talk about a Monday playgroup that happens out at the Minot Air Force Base. Bernadine mentioned that she would also be interested in seeing more playgroups occur on the reservation. Keith will invite Cheryl Ekblad from Head Start to see if there might be a possibility to start up a satellite EHS program.
14. Other announcements: St. Leo's Church is now offering a program for children who turn two by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Cost is \$50/month. Classes run 2 times per week from 9:15 am to 10:45 am. The director would also be interested in partnering with the college to provide practicum experiences for certain majors. For more information call Barb Johnson at 701-838-3355.

Submitted by Wendy Thomas